



## President's Report

By Terry Trueblood

It hardly seems possible that my term as your president is nearly half complete. I will reiterate once again that it truly is an honor, but also once again . . . I am still wondering just how I got here! There are so many outstanding people in the Academy that it's an honor just to be a member, and I mean that sincerely.

After five months "on the job" I would be remiss if I didn't pause here to simply say . . . "Thank God for John Potts and Andee Chestnut!" These two work overtime to keep me on track, and I do appreciate their efforts. Their work behind the scenes plays a large part in keeping the Academy headed in the right direction. Of course you also have a Board of Directors and committee chairs comprised of dedicated leaders in our field; when you have a moment, I would appreciate it very much if you would tell them thank you for their willingness to be involved, and to work for the betterment of the Academy and our profession.

As you know, last year we held our first Academy retreat in Estes Park, just prior to the NRPA Congress and Exposition. Special thanks to Michelle Park, Sandra Whitmore, Lori Daniel and Linda Kotowski for their efforts in making the retreat become a reality. Numerous issues, concerns and accomplishments were identified, and perhaps just as important, people in attendance got to know one another better.

One of the things that came out of the retreat was that the group felt it was important to have another, so the second retreat will be held just prior to the next national conference in Tampa. Michelle Park has graciously accepted the challenge to chair this event once again.

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## Call For Papers

Annually the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration presents a Best Paper Award for contributions to the scholarly literature that improve the practice of park and recreation administration. The source of these papers is rotated between papers written by practitioners that are published in the Journal of Park and Recreation Administration, master's theses or undergraduate papers, and doctoral dissertations.

This year the award will be presented to the best master's thesis or undergraduate paper published in 1999, 2000, 2001 or 2002. Undergraduate papers submitted should be a substantial effort comparable to a senior thesis or term paper for a course. The Academy was formed to advance knowledge related to the administration of recreation and parks. Papers are evaluated for their scholarly contributions to this advancement. Best Paper Award Committee members are Dr. J. Robert Rossman, Illinois State University (Chair); Ms. Nancy MacCartney, Reno, Nevada; and Dr. Randy Vessell, University of Missouri.

**Deadline for submissions: May 1, 2002.** Send to: Dr. J. Robert Rossman, College of Applied Science and Technology, Illinois State University, Campus Box 5000, Normal, IL 61790-5000, (309) 438-7602, [jrossm@ilstu.edu](mailto:jrossm@ilstu.edu).

## John Crompton Honored By Peter Witt

In April, a group of John Crompton's past and current students, colleagues and friends will be assembling at Texas A&M for a weekend of fellowship and activities to honor John on his many accomplishments. No, he is not retiring and won't for some time, but several of his students are putting on this event to celebrate John's many contributions to the park, recreation and tourism fields.

At the event, we plan to give John a book containing comments from former students, academic and professional colleagues. We are inviting you to contribute to that effort and thus hope you will send us a 1 to 2 page single spaced letter, memo, etc. on what it has been like to work with JLC (if you have), impact of his work on the field, or anything else you would like to say. Humor is invited! You can send this via e-mail as an attachment in either WP or WORD. If you want it to be on letterhead, mail to me at the address below.

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## Bulletin Committee

**Chair:** Andrew Kimmel, 847-968-3209, 847-367-6649 fax, [akimmel@co.lake.il.us](mailto:akimmel@co.lake.il.us)

**Members:** Lowell Caneday, Bob Dunsmuir, Phil Rea, Jody Stowers, Joseph Wynns

**Notes, Announcements and Articles Welcome.**  
June Bulletin Deadline: May 15, 2002

## 2002 Annual Dues

Don't forget to submit your dues payment by the May 1, 2002 deadline to avoid a \$25 late fee.

Active Fellow \$150

Emeritus Fellow \$50

Why not consider a donation to the Foundation too!

Make checks payable to: AAPRA, P.O. Box 1040, Mahoumet, Illinois, 61853-1040. If you need it, the tax number is 43-1265346.

Questions may be directed to John Potts, Executive Secretary/Treasurer, at (217) 586-3360 or by e-mail at [jcpotts@ccfpd.org](mailto:jcpotts@ccfpd.org).

## New Members Welcomed

### Elected October 2002

#### **Dr. Lowell M. Caneday, CPRP**

Professor & Coordinator, Oklahoma State University Leisure Studies, Stillwater, Oklahoma

#### **Robert "Skip" Dunsmuir, CPRP**

Director of Parks and Recreation, Wheaton Park District, Wheaton, Illinois

#### **James Garges**

Director, Cincinnati Recreation Commission, Cincinnati, Ohio

#### **William G. Nelson**

Executive Director, Rock Island Recreation & Park Board, Rock Island, Illinois

#### **Rodger E. Schmitt**

National Recreation Group Manager, Bureau of Land Management, Washington, D.C.

#### **Jody L. Stowers, CPRP**

Director, City of Westerville Parks & Recreation Department, Westerville, Ohio

## Help Chart The Bulletin's Future

With increasing use of e-mail to communicate within the Academy and improvement of the Academy's website, the role of the Bulletin is changing. Please help chart a new course for the publication by responding to the brief survey below. Thanks for your help.

### How valuable to you is it for the Bulletin to include...

1. A quarterly message from the President?
2. Announcements from committees about upcoming deadlines for submissions and nominations?
3. Brief notes about members in the news?
4. Memorials and tributes about members?
5. Highlights of what is available in detail on the Academy website?
6. Profiles of recent Pugsley Award winners, Externship recipients, Best Paper Award winners, Legends in Parks and Recreation video interviewees?
7. Plans and schedules for Academy meetings and events at the annual National Recreation and Park Association Congress? Photos from the banquet?
8. Annual Academy Retreat Follow-up and Promotion? Photos from the retreat?

Please send your responses by April 15, 2002, to:  
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 Libertyville, IL 60048  
[akimmel@co.lake.il.us](mailto:akimmel@co.lake.il.us)  
 847-968-3209  
 847-367-6649 fax

## People In The News

### Pugsley Award Winner Tapped

Andrea S. Moore, 2001 Pugsley Award Winner, was recently named Deputy Director of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. Moore was completing her fifth term as an Illinois State Representative at the time of her appointment.

### President's Message *continued*

Three of the major issues to be discussed are . . . the development of a think tank program; the creation of a leadership development program; and development of a strategy to address the problem of fewer students and reduced faculty. We may also include a discussion about Academy/NRPA relationships led by Jonathan Korfhage, Academy member and current President-elect of NRPA. More information will be forthcoming; please make plans to attend.

As is quite typical with retreats, much of our discussion seemed to revolve around our perceived shortcomings, but thankfully John Potts reminded us that we have accomplished many good things which likely would not have become reality if it weren't for the Academy. As a result of this discussion, it was determined that perhaps it was time to quit being such a low-key organization, and begin to "toot our horn" a bit. Subsequently, your Board of Directors decided that the best way to do this (at least as a first step) would be to approach NRPA about the possibility of getting an article published in Parks & Recreation. I am pleased to report that this is being done . . . John Potts has submitted the information to the magazine editor, and you can expect to see the article in a not-too-distant future issue.

I will close with this . . . You recently received your 2002 Membership Directory; please look it over, especially the "Committees/Plan of Work" section, and be thinking about those areas where submissions and/or nominations are needed. Whether it be for awards, officers, members, programs, articles, or whatever please contact the appropriate committee chair to offer assistance or suggestions.

## “Focus on Leadership” 2002 Academy Retreat

Saddlebrook Resort, Florida

October 12 – 14, 2002

### By Michelle Park

The 2001 Academy Renaissance Retreat last October was such a success, all 40-plus Academy members who participated agreed that there should be a second retreat immediately in 2002 to begin to address the findings discussed in Colorado last year. This year’s Academy Retreat participants will work in teams to develop strategies and action plans for the following three issue/projects:

1. Develop a Think Tank Program addressing timely issues facing the profession;
2. Create a Leadership Development Program for mentoring younger professionals and new agency directors; and,
3. Develop a strategy for addressing the problem of fewer students at the college level preparing for the profession as well as the need for more college faculty in higher education.

Preliminary work will be done for each of the projects. If you wish to volunteer to help direct one of these projects, please contact Michelle Park, CPRP, at 1-800-238-1108 or email [opra@ee.net](mailto:opra@ee.net).

### Retreat Schedule

#### October 12, Saturday

4-6 PM Registration and Hotel Check-in

7 PM Dinner

#### October 13, Sunday

8 AM Breakfast

9-1 PM “Focus on Leadership” Retreat  
Spouse trip to nearby Hyde Park

2-6 PM Retreat Activities

6 PM Reception

7 PM Dinner

#### October 14, Monday

8 AM Breakfast

9-1PM “Focus on Leadership” Retreat

2 PM Depart for NRPA Congress

### Why the Saddlebrook Resort?

Saddlebrook Resort is located 35 minutes north of the Tampa International Airport.

It is world-renowned for its European style luxury spa, golf and tennis facilities, swimming pool complex and just plain relaxation!

**GOLF** - Saddlebrook features two 18-hole Arnold Palmer Signature championship golf courses. Current golf fees for the meeting dates are \$105 per person, for 18 holes including cart. **Off-site golf course Lexington Oaks green fees are \$45 including cart.**

**FITNESS CENTER** - A 3,000-square-foot Fitness Center houses resistance machines for a total body workout, Lifecycles, Stairmasters, treadmills and free weights.

**EUROPEAN SPA** - Features a tantalizing array of services including Massage Therapies, Hydrotherapies, Herbal and Seaweed Body Wraps, Moor Mud Treatments, Aromatherapies and Loofah Scrubs, and also the personal beauty services of skin care, hair care, make-up and nail care.

**CHALLENGE COURSE AT SADDLEBROOK** - This on-property experiential learning site is designed to develop trust, teamwork, problem solving, and improve communication . . . all in a 5-acre outdoor environment. With the guidance of professional facilitators, groups are led safely through a series of trust exercises, group initiative challenges and a low and high ropes course.

**TRANSPORTATION** - Provided to and from Tampa International Airport by Resort Shuttle, Inc., an independently owned and operated company, at a current cost of \$22.00 per person each way. A rental car is not necessary, unless you are planning an off-property excursion.

**AREA ATTRACTIONS** - Because of its central location, many off-property trips can be coordinated. Information will be forwarded upon request.

For a complete overview of the Resort, please visit [www.saddlebrookresort.com](http://www.saddlebrookresort.com).

The following Resort Fees include: a deluxe sleeping room, two dinner and two breakfast meals, use of the Fitness Center, access charges for 800 and credit card calls, local phone calls and housekeeping services.

\$135.85 per person / double occupancy. This rate includes the 19% gratuity for Food and Beverage but does not include tax

\$213.35 per person / single occupancy. This rate includes the 19% gratuity for Food and Beverage but does not include tax.

Look for the Retreat Registration Form in the next Academy Newsletter.

## Summary of First Academy Retreat

**Estes Park, Colorado**

*September 29 - October 1, 2001*

**By Andee Chestnut**

The Academy Retreat in Estes Park contained two panel discussions – one with founding Academy members sharing their knowledge as to why the Academy was founded, its purpose and intended direction, and one with recently inducted members sharing their perceptions of the Academy and its future. The final session was a review of discussion as well as a prioritizing of initiatives to be addressed.

### **Panel Discussion with Three Founding Academy Members**

Tony Mobley, Bob Toalson, Mary Grogan

Panelists discussed why the Academy was founded, what the Academy does, their evaluations of the Academy's progress to date, and in what direction the Academy should be going.

Some of the points expressed were:

The Academy was founded because there was a vast amount of expertise and experience in the field among administrators who had served in all the possible capacities of the NRPA and still had much wisdom to contribute, but there was no place for the sharing of this information. There were 50 founding members. The intention was not to compete with NRPA, but to complement and enhance. One of the benefits of the Academy was that decision-making was easier – less cumbersome.

The large number of programs in which the Academy has had a part was discussed. The Academy has accomplished a lot, but there's a lot left to do. It's important to have all members involved. It was expressed that in recent years, the Academy has turned inward, sliding into a pattern. It was suggested the Academy promote what it does, and especially to inform members and others about all the things the Academy has done since its inception, such as sponsoring workshops, studying open space standards, hall of fame, certification. It was noted that the real leadership in the Academy has come from individuals, that in most cases, individuals have been the impetus. As with any successful organization, members will get out what they put in. It was pointed out the Academy provides the structure for people to accomplish what they want. The committee structure is important for continuity, but individuals have made the accomplishments. It was commented that more in the induction process needs to ask people to get involved. A suggestion was made to develop a handbook to tell members what's been accomplished and what's expected of them. Another suggestion was to do more outside the NRPA Congress which is mainly a business meeting. It was stated members need time to discuss issues. A retreat was suggested for every other year and also to establish five-year goals.

Issues the Academy needs to address include the fact that not enough people are entering the field, and there are massive retirements approaching. It was stated the Academy needs to be able to mentor.

The need to work with city managers and the National Recreation Foundation was mentioned, that it is important to gather collective knowledge. It was expressed that members need to go back to why the Academy was founded and remember the nonnegotiable items. It was mentioned that members need to be educated about these things.

**Panel Discussion with Three Newer Members**

Linda Kotowski, Joe Wynns, Jane Hodgkinson

Panelists and Academy members discussed what the Academy wasn't doing and made suggestions for what it should be doing. Some newer members noted that when they were elected, they weren't given a lot of information about the Academy. Others said they learned a lot from those who nominated them.

**Review of Pre-Retreat Member Survey**

Jane Hodgkinson reviewed a survey that had been sent out to members prior to the retreat. Responses were received from 17 members (10 who had been in the Academy five years or more and seven who had been in the Academy four years or less). The summary follows:

*From your perspective, what should the Academy be, do, or become?*

Follow our mission and become more visible (4 responses)

Foster and promote applied research and the dissemination of knowledge (4 responses)

Modest amount of activities that are in keeping with advancement of knowledge. Most important function is to find ways to build next generation of leaders (3 responses)

Work more closely with NRPA and form partnerships or working relationships with other organizations with similar missions. Should also establish legislative and policy partnerships (3 responses)

Should be a dynamic process with the flexibility to change directions as need arises.

Should focus on timely and specific issues that effect a large segment of the profession such as 2-3 Big Hairy Audacious Goals

Continue retreats, inviting others to participate

Encourage stronger support and participation from larger agencies.

Encourage programs that create stronger citizen support

Set highest standards of administrative leadership

Continue publication of Journal

Support professional contributions of Academy members

Become more visible or publicly involved

*Where or how should the Academy focus its energies in the next ten years?*

National Research Institute, practical applied research (4 responses)

Continue Journal (3 responses)

National Leadership Program (2 responses)

Develop leadership through mentoring program (2 responses)

Build partnerships with NRPA and other similar organizations (2 responses)

Mandate that Academy members become more active (2 responses)

Support the professional contributions of Academy members

Tackle tough professional issues and problems (2 responses) such as: Urban Parks, Youth at Risk, Shrinking Resources, Changing Characteristics of Seniors, Providing Services for Special Needs

Develop a national Leadership program, such as the Center for Creative Leadership in Greensboro, N.C.

In discussion, it was suggested the Academy identify trends and use the collective wisdom of its members. The importance of mentoring young professionals was discussed, noting there is enough knowledge for a think tank which could serve as a resource for problem solving for young professionals. The lack of practitioners writing articles for the Journal was discussed. It was noted that the partnership with educators is very beneficial in this area. Importance was placed on recruiting and retaining new professionals. It was suggested the Academy focus inward less.

### **Review of Academy Accomplishments**

John Potts presented information about the Academy's accomplishments. Some include:

***Journal of Park and Recreation Administration***, the preeminent source and repository of scientific and applied research in the field.

***Legends in Parks and Recreation***, a series of about 70 videotaped interviews with outstanding leaders in the field.

***Best Paper Awards***, a program of annual recognition for dissertations, student papers and practitioner articles.

***Pugsley Awards***, the most prestigious recognition awarded in the profession.

***Young Professional Externship Program***, which enables Academy members to establish a relationship with and encourage outstanding young professionals.

***Agency Services Program***, that offers the expertise of Academy members to agencies in need of such services.

***Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenways Guidelines***, a project in conjunction with NRPA, which is periodically updated and reissued.

***Agency Accreditation***, an initiative of the Academy which continues to gain momentum.

***Professional Certification***, an initiative of the Academy that is now an integral part of NRPA.

***National Symposium Series***, an initiative of the Academy, now administered by its own committee, that provides opportunities for professionals to meet informally for in-depth discussions of timely issues.

***Recreation and Park Hall of Fame***, a joint project of the Academy and NRPA.

***Schools, Workshops and Conferences*** sponsored by the Academy to examine various timely issues.

### **Final Session**

Academy members present at the retreat voted for their top three initiatives for the Academy to address in the immediate future

Think Tank Program (17 votes)

Mentoring and Providing Leadership to Younger Professionals, Small Agency Directors, Leadership Development Program (15 votes)

Lack of Students in Public Parks and Recreation Curriculum as well as the Lack of Faculty in Higher Education to Teach Future Professionals - not enough PhD's (11 votes)

Tools and Resources Needed Immediately  
 Benchmarks in Parks and Recreation; Create Best Practices in Parks and Recreation; Update Management Practices, Benefits Research, Open Standards and Per Capita Spending Survey for Local Parks and Recreation; Resurrect 'Park Practices' publication; and Evaluate the Journal for Effectiveness to Practitioner (10 votes)

Academy should play a role in NRPA's grassroots citizen advocacy efforts (5 votes)

Need to partner with other entities such as the American Planning Association, the Great Cities Conference, those Outside the Parks and Recreation Profession. (3 votes)

Cabinet Level Spokesperson for Recreation Services. (1 vote)

### **General Summary**

The general consensus of those in attendance was support for another retreat in Tampa in 2002 and then to determine scheduling after that. Those in attendance particularly noted how helpful the historical information was. They generally liked the informal format that allowed for candid discussion, and they enjoyed the time allowed to get to know each other. They said the retreat helped them understand the Academy's mission and refocus on the original design. They were positive about the focus on identifying priorities for the future.